1982 ANNUAL REPORT

FARMERS' ADVOCATE

Alberta
AGRICULTURE

OFFICE
OF THE

FARMERS' ADVOCATE OF ALBERTA

ANNUAL REPORT

1982

February 25, 1983.

Honourable LeRoy Fjordbotten,
Minister of Agriculture,
Legislative Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.

The Honourable LeRoy Fjordbotten:

I have the honour of submitting a Report of the activities of my Office for the period January 1, 1982 to December 31, 1982.

Sincerely,

Helmut P. Entrup

HELMUT P. ENTRUP
FARMERS' ADVOCATE OF ALBERTA

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I N T R O D U C T I O N

The Office of the Farmers' Advocate, reporting directly to the Minister of Agriculture, is attached to the Department of Agriculture and is located in the Agriculture Building. All necessary office supplies are requisitioned and the annual budget submitted through this Department.

This report provides a resume of our activities. It also provides an opportunity to express our appreciation, through the Minister, to other Departments and Agencies of Government for the assistance they have provided. The co-operation received from the sections of the private sector we are involved with is appreciated, as is the valuable support from the provincial news media.

In addition we attempt to detail the workings of the office, to delienate the direction to be assumed for the forthcoming year and provide some synoptic illustrations of the many cases we have dealt with.

J U R I S D I C T I O N

The Farmers' Advocate of Alberta has two primary functions.

Firstly, to investigate and solve problems and act as a mediator in disputes which involve farmers and other segments to industry.

Secondly, to act in an advisory capacity. Based on past experience and on the similarity among complaints, we are in a position to advise farmers, or to present to farmers, alternative routes to follow in an attempt to settle their outstanding complaints.

In disputes of individuals with the Provincial Government we refer the complaints directly to the Department concerned and advise the individuals of their right of appeal to the Provincial Ombudsman.

In disputes of individuals with Local Government (Rural Municipalities, Counties and Improvement Districts), we advance these complaints to the respective body and request information pertaining to these cases. If it is found by this Office that the complaint is justified, we take measures to encourage the respective body to review the circumstances with us, in an attempt to find a solution to the problem. We are pleased with the cooperation that we have received from all levels of Local Government.

We do not involve ourselves in cases where the complainant retains the services of a lawyer and withdraw from any case where the complainant subsequently retains legal service. With these exceptions, we attempt to mediate between the opposing parties with the aim of reaching an out-of-court settlement. Although farmers may have a legal remedy, litigation in many cases is far too expensive, too time consuming, and too mysterious and uncertain a procedure for all but a handful of farmers to pursue to a successful conclusion. Therefore we stress private negotiation between the opposing parties, always stressing an appreciation for the other side of the argument.

M E E T I N G S

One of the policies followed from the very outset by this office, is to be active in attending farm oriented meetings, whether they be with farmers, farm organizations, corporations, or departments of government, both provincial or federal. The response by farmers to these meetings is very positive. We find that in many cases a farmer confronted with a problem is in a quandry as to what he should do, because he does not have a full appreciation for his rights in the situation which he is finding himself in. The vast majority of these problems could have been avoided had farmers been aware of their rights and obligations, whether they be under Alberta Legislation or other facets of law. Therefore, through these meetings we attempt to convey to the farmer not only his rights as they pertain to many circumstances, but also the necessity and importance of not only being cognizant of these rights, but being able to interpret them and use them to bring any problems they may have to a fair settlement.

We have found that these meetings are not only helpful to the farmers, but also very informative and relevant to this office as it enables us to perceive the needs of the farmer and thereby adjust our programs to correspond to these needs.

Our meetings are informal in structure, and usually take place in local community halls. As always, ample time is left for farmers to ask questions that relate to our presentation, or to any other concern that may be uppermost in their mind. Even though these meetings are presented to groups, we stress the importance of a one-to-one relationship and problems presented to us are handled on the spot, or upon returning to our office. These meetings have proved so successful in the past that we are receiving more requests to attend than we are able to manage under our present system. As these meetings are informational, they also tend to generate more office work, in that files must be established and specific problems mediated. More office time translates into less time to attend meetings of the above described nature. However, we do endeavour to balance the need for information with the need for actual office work.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

The Office of the Farmers' Advocate consists of the following staff members:

Farmers' Advocate	1
Assistant to the Farmers' Advocate	2
Permanent Secretaries	2

This office has not increased in manpower significantly since its inception, and hopefully, it will be able to remain this way for several reasons. Firstly, when farmers contact this department they speak to someone in a position to help or advise them immediately. There is no long line of assistants or secretaries that one must go through. We have found that this is most effective in that farmers know they are talking directly to the person that they feel is in a position to offer the required assistance. The other reasons are obvious, namely, financial, administrative, and expenses which are held down proportionately to the size of any staff.

We were sad to see the former Assistant, Rob Feniak, leave this office to go into farming. Mr. Feniak was very competent and his intimate knowledge of practical farming will be missed.

Cliff Downey joined the Farmers' Advocate in June of this year bringing with him a wealth of experience in Agricultural related matters. Mr. Downey has farmed and ranched in the Castor area for 30 years as well as being a director of the Paintearth Gas Co-op, the local United Grain Growers and Past President of Castor Unifarm local. Mr. Downey served in Ottawa as Member of Parliament for Battle River from 1968 to 1972 and more recently served as Director of the Alberta Cattle Commission.

Bard Haddrell has served with me since 1977 and continues to add to the success of this office. His dedication and competency is invaluable.

I would also like to thank my Secretaries, Mrs. Mary Leach and Mrs. Munira Juma for their dedication and loyalty which has helped contribute to an efficient, well organized office. Their support has been invaluable.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The year 1982 has been a trying and dramatic year for Alberta farmers. They were in the unenviable position of finding themselves in a dilemma of rising input costs without a corresponding rise in cash returns. Transportation, finances, marketing and falling land values resulting in depreciating collateral base, were only a few of the many influences and pressures that our farmers had to contend with. They have continued to meet head-on these adversities and produce efficiently and effectively. This Office realizes the various factors which weigh heavily on farmers and have always tried to adjust our services to meet their needs. This was done in most cases through direct involvement by this Office, sometimes in consultation with other sources of expertise. Therefore, as farmers had to adjust to the ever changing economic situation so did this Office to keep current in its ability to meet and satisfy the needs of its farming clientele.

This Office continues to act as an Appeal Body to decisions of the Livestock Disaster Predatory & Indemnity Program. We continue to hear appeals under the program. However, as usual the low frequency of appeals under this program indicates to us that the Livestock Disaster & Predatory Indemnity Committee has continued to do a very thorough job on investigating and hearing these claims initially, thereby precipitating few appeal hearings.

This Office continues to serve one of our primary functions, that of mediation and education, one complimenting the other. We are attempting to put education before mediation, thereby trying to negate or remove through this education, circumstances which may arise and lead to our eventual involvement in the role as mediator in problem situations. We strongly believe that through education, one can appreciate circumstances leading up to or causing many of the disputes which may have plagued farmers in the past, and through this understanding are thereby able to avoid many of the pitfalls. However, where a situation arises and our services are needed, we continue to act as a mediator. We were able, in over 85% of the cases we became involved in, to bring them to a conclusion to the mutual satisfaction of all parties. It should be stressed that our resolvements do not always give the farmers that which they wanted, nor does it always reveal that the farmer was always in the right. This office has no reluctance now, nor has it in the past, in telling the farmers, as we do to industry, that in our opinion they are in error and should reconsider their decision before progressing further, which in many cases may be leading in a wrong direction that is irreversible.

This Office has a history of becoming involved in the drafting of documents which are used in many negotiations in farming operations. In 1982 we saw our involvement in the Alberta Surface Occupation Agreement. We met with industry and farming groups in an attempt to achieve a standard agreement which would offer basic coverage to landowners as it pertains to surface structures being placed on their lands. The initial draft was completed in 1982, and we look forward to its finalization and eventual use.

The target area change as it relates to the placement of oil and gas wells in Alberta as initiated in 1982 proved most beneficial. However, it is this Office's opinion that further consideration should be given to a corresponding move of the gas target areas to the Northeast corners of Sections so as to compliment the move of oil target areas and therefore avoid many of the problems that have been arising in regard to common wellsite placement. Our concern has been expressed to the Energy Resources Conservation Board.

1982 again resulted in our active involvement with Rural Electrification Associations and Gas Co-ops. Many R.E.A.s are finding themselves in financial difficulties as it relates to their Deposit Reserve Accounts and their inability to meet the inflationary costs being experienced. Many have been forced into a position of either addressing default or selling out to one of the two main power companies. In some cases the sales have been inevitable, however, R.E.A.s have been able to re-organize, regroup and continue to give the worthwhile service at a minimum cost. Through the active involvement of the local Gas Co-ops, as well as their Provincial Association, most of them continue to operate on sound footings.

We look forward to our further involvement with Unifarm. As always, we feel Unifarm's leadership and success is based on the dedication and support of their membership.

Going back over the last few years, it appears that the Insurance Industry is always in a position to attract some comment in our report. Insurance complaints continue to be brought to our attention. We do not feel the problem is so much one of disallowing claims but the attitude expressed by some within the industry. In some cases their knowledge of agriculture is so limited, that if the claim is not connected to the ordinary, namely home or vehicle, they are unable to relate to the situations farmers find themselves in. Where we find these developments, we make considerable effort to educate the adjuster or whoever is involved from the industry. In many cases we are able to reach some settlement, though not always the most desired.

Grazing Associations continue to offer worthwhile service to their members and to the Crown by their utilization, development and protection of our native pasture lands and we look forward to our continuing association with them.

In our mediation role with local Government we find our involvement with Municipalities, Counties and Improvement Districts increases yearly as does the demands being placed on them by their public. Through this level of Government we have found, and continue to find, unlimited assistance and dedication as it relates to the elected representatives attempting to resolve matters of concern, expeditiously and fairly.

We have continued to receive concerns as it relates to Irrigation Districts and requests for the formalization of some avenues of mediation that could be used in disputes relating to specific Irrigation Districts other than that which currently exists have been submitted. Recommendations made by individuals as to a better way of mediation have been passed on to the proper authority. Irrigation Districts no doubt find themselves in a very difficult position in that they are trying to balance the need of all to those of the individual.

As circumstances and precedent developed, information expressed through pamphlets, either compiled by this Office or contributed to by this Office, change to meet those needs. The Energy Resources Conservation Board, through its Interim Decision 82/3 has made "Negotiating Surface Rights" as created by this Office, mandatory as part of its licensing requirements for all gas and oil wells. Farmers must now be given specific information of which this pamphlet forms part, prior to the issuance of a license. This interim requirement, from all preliminary indications, is proving to be invaluable to the farming community and this Office gives its support of it. The Energy Resources Conservation Board, through its Provincial Network of Regional Offices, continues to give unbiased assistance to the farming community in their interaction with our oil industry. They have created a position within the organization for a full time Agriculture Advisor and in 1982 we saw an increasing sensitivity to the farming community by them. The E.R.C.B. is placed in many occasions in the unenviable position of having to make a decision which will no doubt solicit the wrath of either or both the farming and/or oil industry. They continue to balance back to the needs of both sides.

We continue in our association with the Alberta Cattle Commission and the Western Stock Growers and offer our services to them when and where required. We have found this two-way street to be most beneficial to all concerned. We look forward as always to our continued involvement with them.

Over the last few years there has been the development and growth of local Surface Rights Groups to deal specifically with matters as they relate to agriculture land and the petroleum industry. They, in turn, brought about the Alberta Surface Rights Federation which speaks for the majority of these groups on key issues that are of a provincial, rather than local nature in scope. We enjoy a very close working relationship with the local groups as well as with the Alberta Surface Rights Federation.

We continue to have discussions with all facets of industry where it is warranted. However, in our opinion, our liaison with the petroleum industry, through the Canadian Petroleum Association has proven very beneficial to the farming community. 1982 saw a series of 18 special meetings held throughout the province explaining industry's operations and the interaction that these operations precipitate with landowners. It also afforded the farming community the opportunity to advise industry of the concerns and in some cases, problems, they are experiencing. As a result of the success of these meetings the C.P.A., through its

Geophysical Committee, have planned 21 meetings in 1983 throughout Alberta to deal specifically with geophysical operations. We look forward to these upcoming meetings and no doubt will report on them in next years' annual report. This Office has been criticized by some that those meetings provide industry with a platform to manipulate farmers. We do not support these opinions and do not feel that confrontation is the required reaction to industry. It is only through a mutual understanding and appreciation of the other sides' position that these closely related industries can continue to operator harmoniously side by side. We do not apologize for our involvement and feel that the majority of the farming community as well as industry profits by this interaction.

The Water Well Recovery Program, probably more than any other program this office has participated in since its inception, meets the needs of the farming community. This program affords the opportunity for farmers to appear before a committee, that through its involvement in this area of disputes, has gained a certain expertise and consistency in administering this program, to explain the difficulties experienced with their water wells as it relates to seismic operations and/or drilling operations. The committee continues to objectively deal with these matters and report to the Minister of Agriculture its findings. The assistance given to this committee, through the Agriculture Development Committee Chairmen and the Department of the Environment, not only contributes to its effectiveness but also adds to the overall acceptance of this worthwhile program.

As this Office is now coming to a completion of its first 10 year term, we look back with pride upon what contributions we have been privileged to make to the farming community of Alberta. We feel that which we have been fortunate enough to participate in, is a direct result of the assistance given by individuals, companies, groups and government. Without this support and committment the successes encountered could not have taken place. During our investigations and information meetings throughout the province, neither would have proven to be as successful as they were without the valuable assistance of our District Agriculturists. Without their dedication and availability, many of the objectives sought by this Office could not have been obtained as readily and efficiently as they were. The District Agriculturists should be acknowledged for their invaluable contributions to our farmers.

In 1982 we saw the retirement from the political scene and more specifically the Department of Agriculture of the Honourable Dallas Schmidt. We were sad to see his departure. We wish him all the best in his new endeavours and the many contributions made by him will be long remembered.

In the very short time that we have had the pleasure to serve under the new Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable LeRoy Fjordbotten, we established appreciation for a new and refreshing approach and look forward to an enjoyable working relationship with him.

MEETINGS - 1982

January

5	Valleyview	Water Well Hearings
11	Morinville	ASB Conference
11-15	Edmonton	Unifarm Annual Convention
18	Arrowwood	Farm Meeting
19	Calgary	Pipeline Meeting
20	Edmonton	A.A.C.C. Annual Meeting
21	High River	Public Information Meeting
25	Edmonton	M.D.&C. Meeting
25	Calgary	Crime Watch Meeting
26	Holden	Surface Rights Meeting
28-30	Red Deer	Western Stockgrowers Annual Meeting

February

1	Calgary	ASB Conference
1-3	Edmonton	Dairymen's Association Annual Convention
5	Calgary	Alberta Cattle Commission Meeting
9	Medicine Hat	Public Information Meeting
10	Chauvin	Surface Rights Meeting
11	Camrose	Public Information Meeting
16	Calgary	Geophysical Meeting
16-19	Banff	Farm Credit Corporation Meeting
17	Czar	Surface Rights Meeting
22	Stettler	Surface Rights Federation Meeting
24	Tees	Public Information Meeting
25	Manville	Public Information Meeting

Meetings (Continued)

March

1	Byemoor	Surface Rights Meeting
3	Innisfail	Farm Meeting
4	Vermilion	Surface Rights Meeting
8	Vulcan	Public Information Meeting
8	Claresholm	Public Information Meeting
9	Bow Island	Farm Meeting
9	Brooks	Farm Meeting
10	Thorhild	Farm Meeting
10	Strathmore	Public Information Meeting
11	Three Hills	Public Information Meeting
11	Coronation	Public Information Meeting
15	Camrose	Public Information Meeting
15	Thorsby	Public Information Meeting
15-17	Calgary	Cattlemen's Association Convention
16	Oyen	Surface Rights Meeting
16	Grande Prairie	Surface Rights Meeting
17	Rycroft	Public Information Meeting
17	Beaverlodge	Public Information Meeting
18	Athabasca	Public Information Meeting
18	Barrhead	Public Information Meeting
22	Redwater	Public Information Meeting
23	Vermilion	Public Information Meeting
24	Rocky Mtn. House	Public Information Meeting
24	Red Deer	Public Information Meeting
25	Edmonton	Land Use Meeting
25	Consort	Public Information Meeting
26	Onoway	Gas Co-op Meeting
29	Glendon	Pipeline Meeting
30-31	Calgary	A.A.M.D.&C. Convention

Meetings (Continued)

April

2	Red Deer	Farm Meeting
6	Cremona	Public Information Meeting
6	Calgary	Information Meeting
14	Hylo	Public Information Meeting
21	Red Deer	C.A.D.P. Annual Meeting
21	Cardston	Water Well Hearings
22	St. Paul	Water Well Hearings
22	Smoky Lake	Water Well Hearings
23	Vulcan	Public Information Meeting
24	Vauxhall	Public Information Meeting
26	Vermilion	Farm Meeting
26	Kitscoty	Surface Rights Meeting
26	Lloydminster	Public Information Meeting
27	Wainwright	Water Well Hearings
29	Rimbey	Water Well Hearings

May

5	Bluffton	Surface Rights Meeting
6	Hanna	Water Well Hearings
11	Thorhild	Public Information Meeting
14	Drayton Valley	Damage Inspections
17	Hairy Hill	Farm Meeting
17	Vegreville	Farm Meeting
18-19	Edmonton	Spring Planning Conference
19	Legal	Water Pipeline Meeting
26	Calgary	Northern Pipeline Meeting
27	Genessee	Farm Meeting

Meetings (Continued)

June

1	Red Deer	Farm Meeting
2	Legal	Pipeline Inspection
3	Smoky Lake	Water Well Hearings
3	Thorhild	Water Well Hearings
3	Radway	Water Well Hearings
7-8	Red Deer	A.C.C. Meeting
9	Lloydminster	Surface Rights Meeting
9	Athabasca	Public Information Meeting
14	Camrose-New Norway	Pipeline Inspection
16	Bashaw	Farm Meeting
16	Ponoka	Public Information Meeting
16	Lacombe	Public Information Meeting
17	Calgary	Information Meeting
18	Provost	Farm Meeting
18	Metiskow	Farm Meeting
22	Strathmore	Public Information Meeting
22	Chestermere School	Surface Rights Meeting
22-23	Red Deer	R.E.A. Convention
24	Redwater	Farm Meeting
28	Falher	Surface Rights Meeting
28	Donnelly	Surface Rights Meeting
29	Bruderheim	Surface Rights Meeting
29	Cold Lake	A.E.C. Meeting

July

2	Calgary	E.R.C.B. Meeting
6	Bonnyville	A.E.C. Meeting
7	Smoky Lake	Surface Rights Meeting

Meetings (Continued)

July

7-8	Red Deer	Planning Conference
8	Athabasca	Farm Meeting
9	Morinville	Farm Meeting
9	Vegreville	Water Line Inspection
10	Edson	Farm Meeting
13	Bonnyville	Water Well Hearings
14	Lethbridge	Farm Meeting
15	Drumheller	Public Information Meeting
15	Picture Butte	Farm Meeting
15	Claresholm	Farm Meeting
20	Smoky Lake	Farm Meeting
20	Bellis	Farm Meeting
20	Vilna	Farm Meeting
21	Vegreville	Pipeline Inspection
23	Two Hills	Water Well Hearings
27	Calgary	A.C.C. Meeting
29	Bruderheim	Pipeline Inspection

August

3	Morinville	Pipeline Inspection
4	St. Paul	Public Information Meeting
5	Lethbridge	Farm Meeting
6	Winfield	Farm Meeting
8	Oyen	Farm Meeting
9	Calgary	Information Meeting
10	Camrose	Farm Meeting
11	Morinville	Farm Meeting
13	Stony Plain	Pipeline Inspection
16	Lloydminster	Heavy Oil Meeting

Meetings (Continued)

August

17	Calgary	C.P.A. Meeting
17	Innisfail	Water Well Hearings
18	Red Deer	A.G.C. Meeting
19	Round Hill	Public Information Meeting
20	Genessee	Public Information Meeting
23	Calgary	C.P.A. Meeting
24	Calgary	A.C.C. Meeting
26	Stony Plain	Geophysical Demonstration

September

7	Castor	Public Information Meeting
8	Oyen	Farm Meeting
10	Edmonton	C.A.P.L. Meeting
14	Spruce Grove	Farm Meeting
16	Lloydminster	Surface Rights Meeting
17	Innisfail	Water Well Hearings
22	Smoky Lake	Farm Meeting
22	Calgary	Geophysical Meeting
24	Grande Prairie	Water Well Hearings
24	Lacombe	Farm Meeting

October

1	Drumheller	Surface Rights Federation Meeting
1	Drayton Valley	Farm Meeting
3	Calgary	Provincial Forum Meeting
5-7	Jasper	C.A.P.L. Convention
12-15	Jasper	Planning Conference

Meetings (Continued)

October

13	Metiskow	Farm Meeting
14	Mirror	Farm Meeting
16	La Corrie	Farm Meeting
20	Falher	Farmers' Meeting
22	Myrnam	Surface Rights Meeting
24-27	Edmonton	Agricultural Credit Conference
26	Lacombe	Water Well Hearings
27	Hylo	R.E.A. Meeting
27-31	Calgary	R.E.D.A. Meeting
28	Sedgewick	Water Well Hearings

November

1	Calgary	Geophysical Meeting
9	Vermilion	Water Well Hearings
9	Gem	Range Patrol Meeting
10	Camrose	Surface Rights Meeting
10	Round Hill	Surface Rights Meeting
15-19	Edmonton	Municipal Convention
19	Foremost	Surface Rights Meeting
19	Skiff	Surface Rights Meeting
22-25	Red Deer	Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Annual Convention
23	Redwater	Water Well Hearings
23	Keephills	Surface Rights Meeting
23	Bonnyville	Farm Meeting
25	Bluffton	Surface Rights Meeting
25	Rimbey	Farm Meeting
25	Olds	Farm Meeting
26	McKay	Water Well Hearings

Meetings (Continued)

November

29	Rich Lake	Surface Rights Meeting
29	Lac La Biche	Surface Rights Meeting
29	Lethbridge	Salinity Conference

December

1	Stettler	Surface Rights Meeting
3	Brooks	Surface Rights Meeting
6	Elk Point	U.G.G. Meeting
6-8	Calgary	A.C.C. Meeting
9	Lamont	Farm Meeting
10	Rimbey	Meeting (Town Council and Farmer)
14	Bonnyville	Community Meeting
21	Hastings Coulee	Public Information Meeting
21	Forestburg	Public Information Meeting

DISPOSITION OF CASES

The case load of this Office has increased again over the last year. No files were established in cases for problems that we were able to solve in direct communication via telephone with the various opposing parties. For cases where our involvement was required plus files established, a disposition is provided below.

Rectified	1,753
Assistance Rendered	428
Required Litigation	51
Unjustified	107
Referred to Department Concerned	136
Abandoned	24
Under Investigation	48
Information Supplied	1,949
Unable to Assist	56
No Jurisdiction	1

We wish to extend our appreciation to the many responsible agencies of the industry and municipalities, as well as the farming community, enabling us to keep our files to a bare minimum.

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - WELLS - PIPELINES

100-1/82-1	Objection to proposed pipeline	Referred to Department Concerned
82-2	Not paid for crop loss due to pipeline	Rectified
82-3	Seeks payment for damages due to pipeline construction	Rectified
82-4	Requires information concerning annual compensation	Information Provided
82-5	Seeks payment for damages due to loss of hay crop	Required Litigation
82-6	Wants help in obtaining payment of rental arrears	Referred to Department Concerned
82-7	Seeks payment for damages caused by oil company	Required Litigation
82-8	Dissatisfied with pipeline installation	Rectified
82-9	Seeks payment for damages due to pipeline construction	Rectified
82-10	Seeks payment of bill owed by oil company	Rectified
82-11	Seeks payment for damages caused by pipeline construction	Rectified
82-12	Seeks upgrading of annual compensation	Rectified
82-13	Seeks payment for damages caused by trenching operation	Referred to Department Concerned
82-14	Seeks payment for damages caused by pipeline construction	Required Litigation
82-15	Seeks upgrading of compensation for gas well	Information Provided
82-16	Problems with faulty pump, screen & cribbing	Referred to Department Concerned
82-17	Complaint regarding royalties payable on gas well	Rectified

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - WELLS - PIPELINES (Continued)

100-1/82-18	Seeks upgrading of annual compensation	Rectified
82-19	Oil Company responsible for damage to trees and hay	Information Provided
82-20	Seeks compensation from oil company for loss of topsoil	Rectified
82-21	Feels new contract required for injection well	Required Litigation
82-22	Seeks compensation for land and loss of trees due to pipeline construction	Information Provided
82-23	Wants help obtaining rental payment for wellsite	Rectified
82-24	Complaint concerning pipeline across irrigation ditches	Information Provided
82-25	Seeks compensation for damages caused by oil company	Rectified
82-26	Problems with flowing shot hole and surface damages	Information Provided
82-27	Seeks help obtaining gas line installation	Information Provided
82-28	Seeks compensation for damages caused by survey crew	Rectified
82-29	Seeks compensation for damages due to pipeline construction	Assistance Rendered
82-30	Wants compensation for land taken for pipeline	Rectified
82-31	Seeks upgrading of annual compensation	Rectified
82-32	Dispute with oil company over quantity of gas taken	Assistance Rendered
82-33	Seeks compensation for damages caused by water pipeline	Information Provided
82-34	Problems with oil company over shut-in gas well	Rectified

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - WELLS - PIPELINES (Continued)

100-1/82-35	Seeks information concerning stray animals	Information Provided
82-36	Seeks compensation for damages from oil company	Information Provided
82-37	Seeks compensation from oil company for inconvenience	Assistance Rendered
82-38	Seeks upgrading of annual compensation	Information Provided
82-39	Seeks information concerning rental reviews	Information Provided
82-40	Seeks information concerning compensation for damages	Information Provided
82-41	Dispute concerning rental for wellsite and access road	Information Provided
82-42	Seeks information concerning mineral title	Information Provided
82-43	Dispute concerning renewal contract	Assistance Rendered
82-44	Blasting operations cause undue hardship and inconvenience	Information Provided
82-45	Seeks advice concerning compensation for damages	Referred to Department Concerned
82-46	Seeks information concerning mineral rights	Information Provided
82-47	Seeks compensation for damages and inconvenience caused by pipeline construction	Unable to assist
82-48	Seeks advice concerning lease renegotiation	Under Investigation
82-49	Seeks compensation from oil company for damages	Assistance Rendered
82-50	Complaint regarding right-of-way changed without notification to farmer	Under Investigation

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - WELLS - PIPELINES (Continued)

100-1/82-51	Seeks information concerning annual compensation	Information Provided
82-52	Seeks information concerning rental review	Information Provided
82-53	Seeks information concerning lease negotiations	Information Provided
82-54	Seeks compensation from oil company for damages and inconvenience	Under Investigation
82-55	Seeks compensation for damages from oil company	Referred to Department Concerned
82-56	Seeks compensation for damages from oil company	Referred to Department Concerned
82-57	Seeks advice concerning pipeline easement	Assistance Rendered
82-58	Disputes amount charged for tank rental	Information Provided
82-59	Problems with oil company concerning right-of-way	Assistance Rendered
82-60	Seeks compensation for damages from oil company	Under Investigation
82-61	Seeks advice on landlord-tenant agreement	Information Provided

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - POWERLINES (Continued)

100-2/82-1	Wants power poles removed from his land	Rectified
82-2	Dispute with power company over service	Not Justified
82-3	Seeks information concerning transmission lines	Information Provided
82-4	Seeks information concerning underground powerlines	Information Provided
82-5	Seeks compensation for damages from power company	Rectified
82-6	Problems concerning brushing by power company	Assistance Rendered
82-7	Requests relocation of powerline	Rectified
82-8	Seeks compensation from power company for damages	Rectified
82-9	Not notified that power being removed from farm	Unjustified
82-10	Seeks compensation for damages from power company	Rectified
82-11	Feels his appliances damaged due to voltage problem	Information Provided

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - HIGHWAYS, ROADS (Continued)

100-3/82-1	Wants location of access roadway changed	Not Justified
82-2	Wants access road relocated	Information Provided
82-3	Seeks rental upgrading for access roadway	Required Litigation
82-4	Wants compensation from company for damage to land by building roads without permission	Rectified
82-5	Seeks compensation for access road to gravel pit	Information Provided
82-6	Seeks information concerning crossing improvements	Information Provided
82-7	Dispute with County over compensation for easement	Rectified
82-8	Dispute with County over easement	Assistance Rendered

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - MINERALS

100-4/82-1	Seeks information concerning mineral rights	Information Provided
82-2	Feels wording on title incorrect	Rectified
82-3	Requests information concerning pooling of wells	Information Provided
82-4	Seeks help in obtaining royalty payment	Information Provided

LAND USE-SURFACE RIGHTS - MINERALS (Continued)

100-4/82-5	Wants lease cancelled and Caveat removed from title	Rectified
82-6	Mineral owner feels he is being negatively affected by Contract	Required Litigation
82-7	Seeks information concerning mineral rights	Information Provided
82-8	Seeks advice concerning mineral lease	Under Investigation

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - GENERAL - SEISMIC

100-5/82-1	Feels flow hole on field caused by seismic operations	Rectified
82-2	Wants help in obtaining copy of lease agreement	Information Provided
82-3	Requests information concerning oil wells on land	Information Provided
82-4	Seeks information on renegotiation of contract	Information Provided
82-5	Dispute with oil company over surface rights	Information Provided
82-6	Seeks information concerning new surface lease and payment for damages	Rectified
82-7	Seeks information concerning lease renewal	Information Provided
82-8	Annual rental not received for current year	Assistance Rendered
82-9	Seeks information concerning land he bought	Information Provided
82-10	Concerns respecting Board Order and tree burning	Assistance Rendered
82-11	Requests aid in the renegotiation of a lease	Rectified

LAND USE - SURFACE RIGHTS - GENERAL - SEISMIC (Continued)

100-5/82-12	Seeks help with lease renegotiation	Under Investigation
82-13	Wants compensation from oil company for farming around lease	Under Investigation

REAL PROPERTY - LAND PROBLEMS

110-1/82-1	Feels lease cancellation unjustified	No Jurisdiction
82-2	Seeks help in getting grazing lease renewed	Referred to Department Concerned
82-3	Seeks information concerning upgrading of irrigation canal	Information Provided
82-4	Dispute with County concerning taxes	Rectified
82-5	Seeks advice on application for Grazing Lease	Information Provided
82-6	Feels grossly overcharged by lawyer for services	Information Provided
82-7	Seeks recovery of expenses for farming lease land	Required Litigation
82-8	Would like to acquire some lease land for grazing	Information Provided
82-9	Inadequate accessibility to grazing lease	Information Provided
82-10	Complaint seismic activity destroyed grass	Rectified
82-11	Concerned over their protection in holding on to lease	Referred to Department Concerned

REAL PROPERTY - LAND PROBLEMS (Continued)

110-1/82-12	Seeks additional compensation for stockpiling gravel on his land	Unjustified
82-13	Feels tax classification by County on farm land unfair	Assistance Rendered

REAL PROPERTY - TRESPASS

110-3/82-1	No permission obtained from farmer for right-of-way	Rectified
82-2	Geophysical Company trespassed on his land	Information Provided
82-3	Municipal District trespassed on farmer's homestead	Required Litigation

REAL PROPERTY - EXPROPRIATION

110-4/82-1	Farmers object to reservoir expansion	Under Investigation

ENVIRONMENT - FLOODING

120-1/82-1	Icing Problems on spring being experienced by farmer	Information Provided
82-2	County drainage project causes damages to farmer	Abandoned
82-3	Seeks information concerning drainage easement with County	Information Provided
82-4	Feels flooding problem caused by culvert installed by County	Rectified
82-5	Relocation of drainage channel causes flooding problems	Rectified
82-6	Feels County responsible for drainage problem	Information Provided
82-7	Assessment by Irrigation District disputed by farmer	Information Provided
82-8	Land sunk because of waterline, requests compensation	Information Provided
82-9	Feels his drainage problems are due to access road	Referred to Department Concerned
82-10	Seeks compensation from County for damage to property	Assistance Rendered
82-11	Wants County to install larger culvert to alleviate flooding and erosion problems	Rectified
82-12	Railway Company accused of causing flooding problems	Referred to Department Concerned
82-13	Seeks help in obtaining payment for lease	Rectified

ENVIRONMENT - WATER WELL DAMAGE

120-2/82-1	Concerned water well might be damaged because of drilling	Information Provided
82-2	Claims water well damaged by drilling activity	Assistance Rendered
82-3	Feels water well damaged by seismic company	Information Provided
82-4	Seeks advice as to what would cause murkiness in well water	Referred to the Department concern
82-5	Claims sewage wastes contaminating his dugout	Under Investigation

ENVIRONMENT - HAIL - RAIN - WIND - POLLUTION

120-4/82-1	Complains burning at dump site causing health problems	Unable to Assist
82-2	Insurance not covering potatoes due to improper storage	Unable to Assist
82-3	Seeks help collecting insurance due to hail damage	Information Provided
82-4	Cattle affected by Battle River Spill	Information Provided
82-5	Dispute with Insurance Company over insuring crop	Information Provided
82-6	Tornado causes damage to farm, seeking financial help	Information Provided

AGRICULTURE - LIVESTOCK

130-1/82-1	Feels cattle seizure by SPCA unfair	Required Litigation
82-2	Auction issued NSF cheque, want replacement	Rectified
82-3	Neighbours cattle break fences, cause crop damage	Information Provided
82-4	Feels oil wellsite causing infertility in cattle	Required Litigation
82-5	Feels underpaid for cow delivered to packers	Unable to Assist
82-6	Feels unfairly treated in regard to mare purchased at Auction	Required Litigation
82-7	Seeks financial assistance for livestock losses due to disease	Unable to Assist
82-8	Wants help getting enrolled into D.H.I. Program	Information Provided
82-9	Wants adjustment from packers for cattle sold	Assistance Rendered
82-10	Cattle Pass under highway not satisfactory	Information Provided
82-11	Bull injured in fight with neighbour's bull - Seeks compensation	Unjustified
82-12	Disputes rejection of claim for cattle under Livestock Act	Unable to Assist
82-13	Failure to turn fans on causes suffocation of pullets	Referred to Department Concerned
82-14	Disputes weight of cattle shipped to packing company	Under Investigation

AGRICULTURE - FENCES

130-2/82-1	Wants railway to repair their fence	Rectified
82-2	Fence damaged by fire, seeks compensation	Unable to Assist
82-3	Seeks compensation for crop loss, etc. from Oil Company	Rectified
82-4	Wants Oil Company to move his corral because of their gate	Rectified
82-5	Wants Oil Company to erect fences, gates, etc. so he could keep his livestock confined	Rectified

AGRICULTURE - FARM MACHINERY

130-3/82-1	Insurance Company disputes claim for caterpillar repairs	Required Litigation
82-2	Seeks compensation from geophysical company for damaged harrows	Rectified
82-3	Feels overcharged for relocation of elevator	Information Provided
82-4	Company disputes tractor repairs under warranty	Referred to Department Concerned
82-5	Caterpillar engine damaged due to delivery of wrong fuel	Rectified
82-6	Company claims tractor repairs not covered under warranty	Information Provided
82-7	Agreement to overhauling combine not adhered to	Referred to Department Concerned
82-8	Problems with warranty agreement over tractor repairs	Referred to Department Concerned
82-9	Feels overcharged for mechanical work done to tractor	Unjustified

AGRICULTURE - FARM MACHINERY (Continued)

130-3/82-10	Problems collecting insurance on tractor that burnt	Rectified
82-11	Seeks information concerning Powerline Height over roadways	Information Provided
82-12	Feels overcharged for tractor repairs	Referred to Department Concerned
82-13	Tractor hit by locomotive, feels RCMP caused undue financial hardship in removal of wreck	Unable to Assist
82-14	Dissatisfied with 2nd grade grain bins he purchased	Information Provided
82-15	Feels because of problems when combine first purchased warranty should be extended	Information Provided
82-16	Complaint that default judgment was issued due to lawyer's negligence	Information Provided
82-17	Company warranty will not cover tractor repairs	Referred to Department Concerned
82-18	Tractor damaged because dealer delivered purple gas instead of purple diesel	Unable to Assist

AGRICULTURE - BUILDING PROBLEMS

130-4/82-1	Dissatisfied with ventilation system installed in hog barn	Information Provided
82-2	Dispute over contract of sale of steel building	Referred to Department Concerned
82-3	Farm Buildings damaged by fire, has problems collecting fire insurance	Referred to Department Concerned

NATURAL GAS CO-OPS - PROBLEMS

140-2/82-1	Seeks information concerning natural gas hook-up	Information Provided
82-2	Seeks help obtaining compensation from Gas Co-op for damage to shelter belt	Required Litigation
82-3	Feels gas plant emission causing machinery to rust, etc.	Referred to Department Concerned
82-4	Seeks compensation for damages due to gas line on land	Rectified
82-5	Seeks help in obtaining compensation for damages from Gas Co-op that is now defunct	Unable to Assist

GENERAL REQUESTS - PROBLEMS

150-1/82-1	Dissatisfied with membership in buying service company	Unable to Assist
82-2	Feels death of horse due to electrical current in fence	Unable to Assist
82-3	Seek help collecting refund from Grain Company	Rectified
82-4	Seeks information concerning capital gains on farm property sale	Information Provided
82-5	Complaint against grain company concerning outstanding Claim	Not Justified
82-6	Dispute over rapeseed pricing	Information Provided
82-7	Dispute over charge for cleaning of alfalfa seed	Information Provided
82-8	Dispute with County concerning backslopping	Rectified

GENERAL REQUESTS - PROBLEMS (Continued)

150-1/82-9	Complaint loan company's attitude toward farmer's repayment of loan unfair	Referred to Department Concerned
82-10	Dissatisfied with performance of weed control chemical	Referred to Department Concerned
82-11	Seeks compensation from County for crop and hayfield damage	Rectified
82-12	Seeks compensation from Power Company for destruction of shelterbelt	Information Provided
82-13	Seeks compensation from Railway Company for destruction of hayfield	Rectified
82-14	Dissatisfied with performance of weed control chemical	Information Provided
82-15	Seeks help in alleviating his financial debt	Rectified
82-16	Needs money he invested in rape shares, unable to sell same	Information Provided
82-17	Feels overcharged by management consulting firm	Not Justified
82-18	Complains that wild oats growth direct result of contaminated fertilizer	Assistance Rendered
82-19	Seeks information concerning appeal of tax assessment	Information Provided
82-20	Seeks help in obtaining payment for rapeseed from Company presently in receivership	Under Investigation
82-21	Cancelled membership with farm consulting company, want help collecting refund due	Rectified
82-22	Complains application of soil sterilant migrating off lease	Information Provided

GENERAL REQUESTS - PROBLEMS (Continued)

150-1/82-23	Disputes County's tax assessment due to wellsites on his property	Information Provided
82-24	Dispute over farm rental agreement	Required Litigation
82-25	Dispute with County over property tax assessment	Assistance Rendered
82-26	Disputes legality of seizure of beehives by loan company	Unjustified
82-27	Seeks compensation for damages to vegetable crop loss caused by air spraying	Information Provided
82-28	Dissatisfied with 2nd grade granaries he purchased	Assistance Rendered
82-29	Dissatisfied with amount of milk quota allowed	Unable to Assist
82-30	Wants financial administration of council investigated	Referred to Department Concerned
82-31	Seeks help in getting loan approval from lending institution	Rectified
82-32	Disputes herbicide spray bill issued by County	Not Justified
82-33	Complaint concerning soil sterilant problems	Referred to Department Concerned
82-34	Feels hike in rental for tank too excessive	Information Provided
82-35	Feels lawyer negligent in handling of Purchase Agreement concerning land	Required Litigation
82-36	Wants assistance in having bank extend his operating loan	Under Investigation
82-37	Seeks compensation from Company for fire caused by oil spill	Rectified

GENERAL REQUESTS - PROBLEMS (Continued)

150-1/82-38	Complaint concerning oil spill on land	Under Investigation
82-39	Complaint against power company concerning damage to greenhouse	Under Investigation
82-40	Seeks help in having Writ of Execution removed	Rectified

SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS BY LOCATION

ACME	1	CLYDE	2
ALDER FLATS	2	COALDALE	1
ANDREW	3	COLD LAKE	1
ARDMORE	1	CORONATION	1
ARROWWOOD	1	DRAYTON VALLEY	4
BARRHEAD	4	DRUMHELLER	1
BASHAW	2	DUFFIELD	3
BAY TREE	1	EAST COULEE	1
BEAUVALLON	1	ECKVILLE	3
BERWYN	1	EDMONTON	7
BLACKIE	1	EDSON	1
BLUFFTON	3	ENDIANG	1
BONANZA	2	ERSKINE	3
BONNYVILLE	2	ESTHER	1
BOWDEN	3	EUREKA RIVER	1
BOW ISLAND	1	EVANSBURG	2
BOYLE	1	FALHER	1
BRETON	2	FALUN	1
BROOKS	4	FOREMOST	1
BUCK CREEK	1	FORT KENT	1
BYEMOOR	1	FORT SASKATCHEWAN	1
CALGARY	3	GIROUXVILLE	2
CALMAR	1	GLENDON	1
CAMP CREEK	1	GOODFARE	1
CAMROSE	4	GRANDE PRAIRIE	1
CARDSTON	1	GUY	1
CARMANGAY	1	GWYNNE	2
CARROT CREEK	1	HAIRY HILL	2
CARSTAIRS	3	HIGH LEVEL	1
CASTOR	1	HIGH PRAIRIE	5
CLEARDALE	1	HIGH RIVER	2

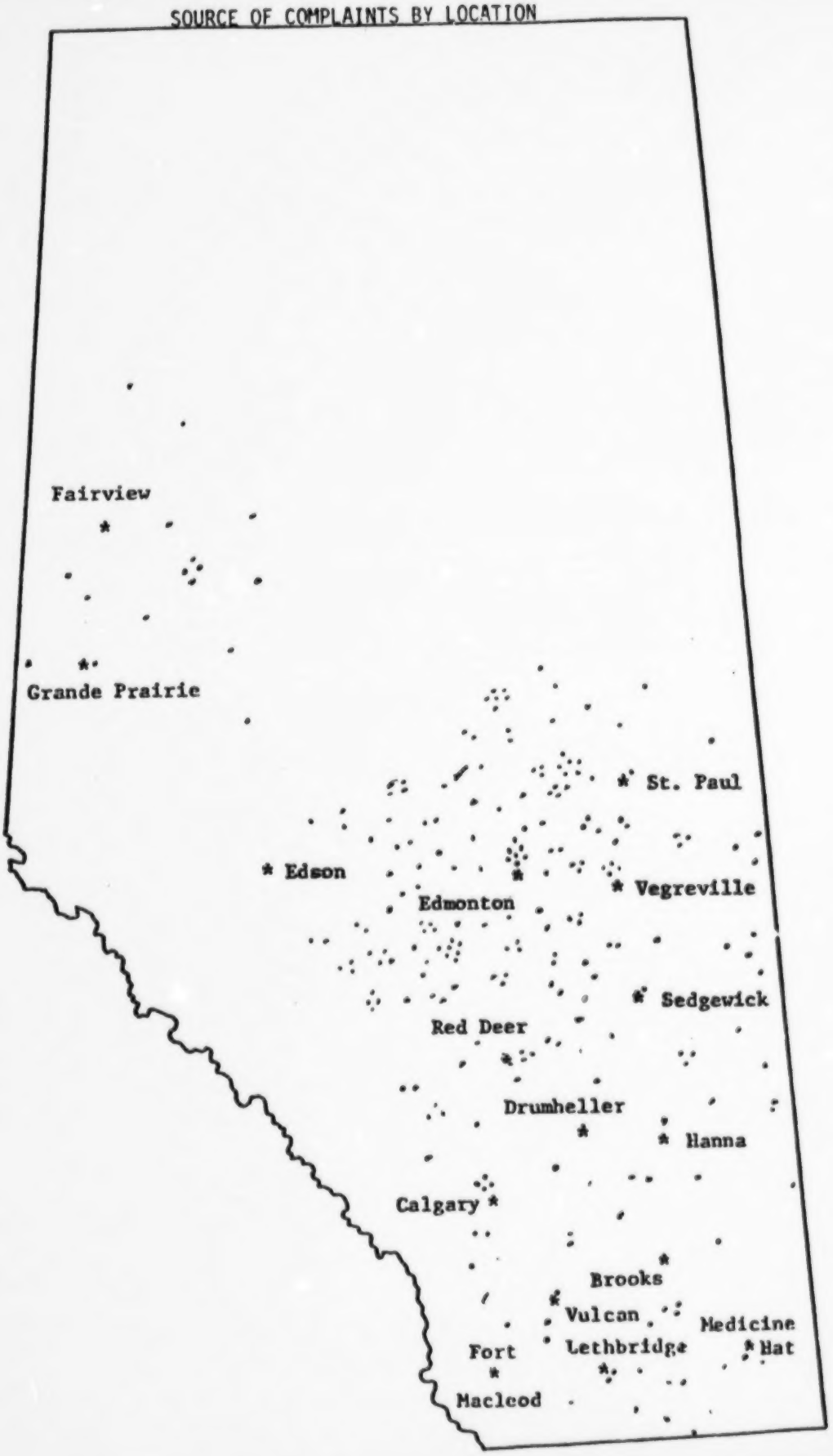
SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS BY LOCATION - Continued...

HYLO	1
IRMA	1
ISLAY	1
JEAN COTE	1
KILLAM	1
KINUSO	2
KIRRIEMUIR	1
LAC LA BICHE	1
LACOMBE	2
LAMONT	2
LEDUC	1
LITTLE BOW	1
LOMOND	1
LYMBURN	1
MANNING	4
MARKERVILLE	1
MAYERTHORPE	1
MEDICINE HAT	4
METISKOW	2
MILK RIVER	1
MILLARVILLE	1
MILLET	1
MORINVILLE	1
MORINGSIDE	1
MYRNAM	2
NAMPA	1
NEWBROOK	1
NEW NORWAY	2
NITON JUNCTION	1
ONOWAY	2
ORION	1
OYEN	1
PARADISE VALLEY	1
PICKARDVILLE	2
PICTURE BUTTE	1
PINCHER CREEK	3
PONOKA	2
RED DEER	1
REDWATER	2
RICH LAKE	1
RIMBEY	2
ROCHESTER	1
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE	3
ROLLING HILLS	1
ROSEMARY	1
RUMSEY	1
RYCROFT	2
RYLEY	2
ST. ALBERT	2
ST. PAUL	1
SCANDIA	1
SHERWOOD PARK	1
SMOKY LAKE	2
SPEDDEN	1
SPIRIT RIVER	1
SPRUCE GROVE	1
STAR	1
STAVELY	1
STONY CREEK	1
STREAMSTOWN	1
STROME	1
SUNDRE	1

SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS BY LOCATION - Continued...

SYLVAN LAKE	1
TABER	1
TANGENT	1
THORHILD	2
THORSBY	1
TILLEY	1
TOFIELD	1
TROCHU	2
TURIN	1
TWO HILLS	2
VAUXHALL	1
VEGREVILLE	1
VERMILION	1
VETERAN	1
VIKING	2
VULCAN	2
WAINWRIGHT	1
WEMBLEY	1
WESTLOCK	1
WILLINGDON	1
WINFIELD	1

SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS BY LOCATION



CASE SUMMARIES

130-1/82-2

A mixed farmer delivered livestock to his local Auction Market and as payment received what turned out to be an N.S.F. cheque.

The farmer contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office who were able to secure payment for him from the livestock dealer.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

130-1/82-9

A livestock feeder in the province had made a deal with a packing company on a linerload of cattle at a set bid price.

The sorting of the cattle was the responsibility of the packer's representative. The feeder had to be away for a week and upon his return discovered that the packer had taken three (3) loads of beef instead of one. He also noted that the price of beef had undergone substantial price improvement within the week he was away.

The feeder contacted the packer relating to price adjustment on the two loads of cattle that had not been arranged for.

The Farmers' Advocate Office was contacted by the feeder when he realized no adjustment was forthcoming. Intervention by the Farmers' Advocate Office was successful in gaining a fair price adjustment for the feeder.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

130-3/82-2

A Geophysical contractor engaged a construction company to clear snow from their right-of-way with a cat and dozer. The cat operator strayed from the right-of-way and did extensive damage to a tillage machine that was covered with snow.

The owner of the harrows was unable to settle damage with the company as their answer was only to weld and repair. The farmer, however, felt he should be put back in the same position he was before Geophysical work commenced.

The farmer contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office who agreed with the farmer. Subsequent discussions between the Farmers' Advocate Office and the Company resulted in payment in full for damages.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

150-1/82-39

Chemical herbicide spraying of a powerline right-of-way by a jobber under contract to a Power Company resulted in damage to a nearby greenhouse operator's crops.

Although the damage claim was substantiated by a local county fieldman and also Horticultural Station personnel, the greenhouse operator was unsuccessful in arranging his full damage claim.

The greenhouse operator, in frustration, finally called the Farmers' Advocate Office who subsequently were successful in arranging for full payment of damage by the Power Company's contractor.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

140-2/82-4

The Farmers' Advocate Office was contacted by a rural resident who, over the course of many months of fruitless negotiations and unanswered calls, found himself in a position of being unable to settle a damage claim against a resource company.

The Farmers' Advocate Office was able to contact an official in a position of authority within the company in question and bring the matter to a quick and amicable solution.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

130-4/82-3

A rural Albertan, after suffering the total loss of a large machine shop by fire, contacted his Insurance Agent of many years standing only to find that he had neglected to insure the building as requested.

The Insurance Agent acknowledged his error and even produced his notes taken from a telephone conversation. He assured the farmer his loss would be covered as he, the Insurance Agent, was covered as all agents are, by "errors and omission insurance".

After some months had gone by without settlement, the farmer contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office whom he hoped could expedite matters. The Farmers' Advocate Office after investigation determined that perhaps stalling tactics were being employed by the agent's insurers. At this point the Farmers' Advocate Office brought the case to the attention of the Superintendent of Insurance, Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, who proceeded to look into the situation further.

The Superintendent of Insurance was able to bring this case to satisfactory conclusion by way of the farmer receiving full settlement on his claim.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

150-1/82-3

A farmer contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office after discovering that in the course of selling his grain to a local grain dealer his Western Grain Stabalization deductions had been made by the dealer, but not forwarded to the Fund's office in Winnipeg.

The Farmers' Advocate Office, after contacting the dealer in question, was able to secure the payment and have it forwarded to his account with the Western Grain Stabalization Fund.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

150-1/82-28

A rural grain producer had purchased a number of steel grain bins from a supplier that were delivered to him in a one (1) bulk package load.

Upon erection of the bins, he discovered error in the gauge of some steel panels as well as other assorted shortages.

He was unable to secure the materials necessary to correct the shortcomings in the package even though he made repeated contact with the company involved.

The Farmers' Advocate Office was contacted by the farmer whereupon they made contact with the dealer who subsequently realized his error and rectified the situation.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

150-1/82-8

A rural ratepayer was in conflict with his local county over the payment of a bill for earthmoving. It turned out, upon investigation, that a portion of the bill was for work that took place on a neighbors land.

The Farmers' Advocate Office was able to clarify and mediate the matter between the involved parties to the satisfaction of all.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

150-1/82-21

A farmer in rural Alberta had engaged an accounting service on a yearly basis to assist in the proper filing of Income Tax forms. It was the custom to pay the fee for service one year in advance.

With a change of personnel within the accounting firm, the farmer found their work to be most unsatisfactory, whereupon he gave notice to the company that he would no longer continue his accounting with them and requested his yearly advance payment to be returned.

After months of frustration from unkept promises from the company, the farmer contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office who were able to clear the matter and secure his prepayment for him.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

150-1/82-40

A farmer contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office to expedite the removal of a Writ of Execution placed against his property several years ago by a collection agency directed to do so by a Petroleum Company. The farmer had sold the said land for over a year before contacting our Office. A portion of his payment monies were being withheld pending removal of the "Writ". Documented evidence of having paid the "bill" from which the "Writ" had resulted was not in question.

The farmer had engaged the services of a law firm prior to contacting our Office and had paid fees in excess of $800.00, but without results.

The Farmers' Advocate Office was successful in having the "Writ of Execution" removed within a week of the farmer first contacting our Office.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

100-1/79-77

Conflict arose between a farmer and a Resource Company over compensation review on a parcel of land used as a roadway that had been acquired by a Surface Rights Board Order.

Particular inconvenience to the farmer, in this case, was a result of roadway use by third parties engaged in various "social pursuits" incompatible with general agricultural use and quiet enjoyment of adjacent lands.

The Farmers' Advocate Office, after having been advised of this situation, was able to bring about a settlement that was satisfactory to the farmer.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

110-1/82-10

A farmer phoned advising us that an Oil Company was conducting seismic operations in his area. The Oil Company employees were told not to drive on a field of certified brome grass as it might be contaminated by quack grass from a neighbouring field. Quack grass seed in brome grass seed makes it unsaleable as certified seed. The Oil Company employees drove over the brome grass field.

Our Office advised the farmer to take pictures of the truck tracks and take along two or three neighbours with him as witnesses to the tracks. Our Office then contacted the Oil Company who went out the same day and settled with the farmer.

The farmer phoned in to thank us and said he was satisfied and happy with our Office. He felt that it was our action that enabled his claim to be settled quickly and adequately.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED VIA TELEPHONE AS MANY PROBLEMS ARE.

100-2/82-4

A farmer contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office regarding non-payment of annual compensation for surface leases by a Resource Company. He further indicated difficulties in the settlement of monies owing him as the result of construction of an underground powerline by the same Company.

The Farmers' Advocate Office was successful in securing annual compensation payments for the farmer but had to advise him to go to the Surface Rights Board to arbitrate compensation in the dispute concerning the underground powerline.

FILE CLOSED - INFORMATION PROVIDED

100-1/82-8

A Municipal District approached the Farmers' Advocate Office to help them resolve differences they were having with a pipeline company.

In 1977 the pipeline company constructed a pipeline under an undeveloped road allowance. No signs were left to indicate the presence of the pipeline. In 1981 the County commenced the construction of a road on the said site. The pipeline was discovered during construction.

Upon establishing contact with the pipeline company, they indicated to the County they would have to case the pipeline under the road allowance at the County's cost of $36,600.00. The County requested assistance from the Farmers' Advocate as they felt that this cost was not their responsibility.

The Farmers' Advocate, in subsequent discussions with the pipeline company, was able to convince them that responsibility for costs associated with the pipeline were indeed theirs.

The County was absolved of further financial responsibility.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

100-1/82-9

A farmer was unable to obtain a suitable and realistic settlement for damages that occurred on a right-of-way for a pipeline obtained by agreement with a Resource Company. Damage related not only to disturbed pasture and hayland, but also saleable timber.

The Farmers' Advocate Office was able, with the assistance of a qualified "Timber Cruiser" to mediate a settlement to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

150-1/82-13

A farmer contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office when negotiations with a Railway Company to resolve damages to a hay crop caused by a fire originating on the Railway right-of-way had failed.

After difficult negotiations over an extended period of time, in which the Farmers' Advocate requested the Alberta Department of Agriculture Extension Personnel to assist in damage calculations, agreement was reached between the parties involved on an approximation of damages. The damages were assessed in excess of $8,000.00.

The Railway Company at this point indicated that under the terms of the "Railway Act" damages caused by fire, if their origin was from sparks from a railway locomotive, were limited in aggregate to $5,000.00. The farmer was unable to prove that the origin of the fire was due to sparks from a locomotive even though he had grave suspicions that the fire could have been started by a track maintenance crew. He was forced to settle for $5,000.00 even though his loss was considerably above this figure.

The same Railway Company that limits losses for fires originating with sparks from locomotives to $5,000.00 also indicates definite steps railways must take with regard to fire fighting when they are aware that they have started a blaze. In this farmer's case the Railway Company acknowledged their train crew was aware of the blaze. However, they did nothing in terms of assistance in extinguishing the fire, this was left to local landowners to take care of.

The Farmers' Advocate has brought this situation to the attention of the Railway Executive and will continue to inform Federal Legislators and the Press of shortcomings in antiquated Railway Legislation.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED (Railway Act Legislation needs changes)

110-3/82-1

The complainant contacted this Office in regard to a dispute over the installation of a local sewer line across his property. It appeared during the pre-construction and construction phases, damages had been caused by apparent trespasses and the landowner was unsuccessful in reaching agreement with the contractor. He contacted the County who withheld a portion of the construction holdback until such time as the farmer and contractor reached agreement. The agreement was not forthcoming and both sides retained the services of a Solicitor. Agreement was still not reached and the landowner discontinued his action through his Solicitor and contacted this Office. We, in turn, contacted the Solicitor for the contractor and the County and received assurances that if this Office examined the construction site and came up with recommendations as to damages (actual, crop, and inconvenience) that they would be willing to abide by our recommendation. The landowner also concurred. This was done and a recommendation was made. The contractor's Solicitor reneged somewhat on this commitment when it appeared to him that a release had earlier been signed by the landowner and was concerned about the legality of this release and whether or not his client had any further obligations whatsoever to the landowner.

We explained to him that the damages examined by this Office were not those covered by the prior release, however, we were experiencing some difficulties in convincing him of this. The Solicitor for the County was most helpful in assisting this Office in convincing the contractor's Solicitor that these damages were valid. The recommendation as given by this Office was accepted; the total sum was paid to the landowner.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

100-2/82-1

A farmer approached a Town to remove three power poles from his property. These poles were placed there by the Town some 25 years ago at the permission of a previous owner of the said lands to service a Town Chlorination Plant.

Since the Chlorination Plant was no longer in use the farmer had requested removal of the poles as a convenience associated with the cultivation of his field.

The Town would not remove the poles indicating some prior right existed for them to be there. This proved to be unsubstantiated at law.

Request for assistance of the Farmers' Advocate Office in resolving this dispute resulted in the Town indicating by Council Motion that the poles in question would be removed at their expense no later than June 30, 1983.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

WATER PIPELINE PROJECT

A Village, by way of construction of what is termed a water pipeline, was in conflict with various landowners along the right-of-way primarily on matters of suitable land reclamation and damages.

Upon our Office receiving requests from various landowners (farmers) along the pipeline right-of-way for our involvement, the Farmers' Advocate Office was able to successfully mediate matters of conflict which resulted in an amicable resolution of matters in dispute without any recourse to law by those involved.

FILE CLOSED - RECTIFIED

REVENUE CANADA PROBLEM

A farmer from the Northeastern part of the Province contacted the Farmers' Advocate Office by phone just two days before a seizure of all farm assets by Revenue Canada would take place.

The near tragedy began some four years earlier when the farmer in a year of low income failed to file a tax return. He was subsequently assessed on the basis of income from the year before, which was a considerable amount.

Upon receiving the assessment the farmer failed to file the necessary notice of objection within the specified time period, and also disregarded further correspondence from Revenue Canada.

In the days immediately before the seizure the farmer attempted to contact Revenue Canada by telephone. His calls resulted in contact with secretarial staff who disregarded his pleas for help and left him on the phone for great lengths of time leaving him with excessive long distance charges.

Upon his contacting the Farmers' Advocate Office we were able to put the farmer in contact with senior Tax Officials who corrected the assessment error forthwith.

The farmer was very appreciative.